

APR 21 2004

T-208 P.002

F-632

OFFICIAL**PATENT APPLICATION****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Rykhus, Jr.	Examiner: M. Thaler
Serial No.: 09/920,871	Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: August 2, 2001	
For: SHORT-TERM BIORESORBABLE STENT	Docket No. 687-437 (AMS0003/US)

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE (703-872-9306) ON

April 24, 2004

Paula Breeden
PAULA BREEDEN

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the final Office action in the above-mentioned patent application, mailed on February 6, 2004.

04/29/2004 1HAKIN 00000001 162230 09920871
Sale Ref: 00000001 DAW: 162230 09920871
01 FC:1201 86.00 DA
02 FC:1202 108.00 DA

Serial No. 09/920,871

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Turnlund discusses a biodegradable mesh and film stent that is formed of a sheet of a composite mesh material formed of biodegradable high strength polymer fibers bonded together with a second biodegradable adhesive polymer and laminated on at least one side with a thin film of a third biodegradable polymer (see abstract). Turnlund discusses heating the stents during lamination at Col. 7, lines 30-35. Turnlund does not discuss treating the stents with the combination of annealing and gamma irradiation.

Relative to the rejection of claim 50, the Office action has not established that Turnlund teaches or suggests anything beyond what has already be taught by Hogan and Stack. Taken as such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 50, on the stated grounds, be withdrawn.

In view of the present amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the outstanding rejections have been either overcome or should otherwise be withdrawn.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, at the Examiner's convenience, should the Examiner have any questions regarding this communication or the present patent application.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:

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Dated: April 21, 2004

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